

Abstract

A compound comprising a target cell-specific portion and human NAD(P)H:quinone reductase 2 (NQO2) or a variant or fragment or fusion or derivative thereof which has substantially the same activity as NQO2

5 towards a given prodrug, or a polynucleotide encoding said NQO2 or said variant or fragment or fusion or derivative. A recombinant polynucleotide comprising a target cell-specific promoter operably linked to a polynucleotide encoding human NAD(P)H:quinone reductase 2 (NQO2) or a

10 same activity as NQO2 towards a given prodrug. The compounds and polynucleotides are useful in a method of treating a patient in conjunction with a suitable prodrug. A method of treating a human patient with a target cell to be destroyed wherein the target cell expresses NQO2 the method comprising administering to the patient a prodrug which is converted to a

15 substantially cytotoxic drug by the action of NQO2 and nicotinamide riboside (reduced) (NRH) or an analogue thereof which can pass reducing equivalents to NQO2.